

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON



A NEW HUMMINGBIRD FROM ST. ANDREWS ISLAND,  
CARIBBEAN SEA.

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Among birds collected on Caribbean Islands by Dr. A. K. Fisher through the interest of the Honorable Gifford Pinchot, during the Pinchot Expedition of 1929, there is a hummingbird from St. Andrews Island that proves to be new to science. Pending publication of a complete report on the entire collection, now in preparation, this new form is here described as

*Anthracothorax violicauda pinchoti*, subsp. nov.

*Characters*.—Similar to *Anthracothorax violicauda violicauda* (Boddaert)<sup>2</sup> but male with black of throat and breast restricted, bordered by metallic green instead of blue on sides of throat and upper foreneck.

*Description*.—Type, U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 313803, male, collected on St. Andrews Island, Caribbean Sea, April 27, 1929, by A. K. Fisher. Above metallic bronze-green, duller, less metallic on crown; wings dull black; middle pair of rectrices dull black slightly glossed with bronze; outer rectrices deep maroon-chestnut, glossed with metallic purple, margined all around with dark metallic greenish blue, this band narrow and nearly obsolete on outer feathers, and broader internally; chin, breast and abdomen dull black, upper breast glossed with bronzy greenish blue; sides metallic bronze-green, under tail-coverts blackish, washed with metallic green, femoral and lumbar tufts white. Bill and feet dull black (from dried skin).

*Measurements*.—2 males, wing 65.9<sup>3</sup>–69.5 (67.7), tail 36.1<sup>3</sup>–37.8 (37.0), culmen 24.8<sup>3</sup> mm.

*Range*.—Known only from St. Andrews Island, Caribbean Sea.

*Remarks*.—The allocation of the hummers of this group from St. Andrews Island to the typical form of *Anthracothorax violicauda* of the distant mainland has long seemed anomalous so that in examination of the single

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<sup>2</sup>*Trochilus violicauda* Boddaert, Tabl. Planch. Enl., 1783, p. 41. (Cayenne.)

<sup>3</sup>Type specimen.

skin obtained by the Pinchot expedition careful comparison has been made with a long series of the typical bird. A second specimen from St. Andrews collected May 1, 1887, by W. L. Abbott has been available through loan from the Academy of Natural Sciences. From these two specimens the differences indicated above have been evident. The type of *pinchoti* which is not quite adult differs from the Abbott skin (which has a broken bill) principally in being greener above and in having the black of the breast somewhat more obscured by greenish. This insular race seems to have carried to an extreme the differences that distinguish *Anthracothorax v. iridescens* of western Ecuador.

It is a pleasure to name this new race in honor of Gifford Pinchot.